



## Long-Range Planning Committee Begins Its Work

by Arthur Slepian and Claudia Bernard, co-chairs, CSZ Long-Range Planning Committee

In the March issue of the *JGF*, Lisa Katz wrote in her president's column about the newly formed Long-Range Planning Committee, which we have the privilege to chair. Our committee has had just a couple of introductory meetings, but, though our process has barely begun, we wanted to provide a brief report.

The Long-Range Planning committee

was created to think about the future, and to help ensure that, as much as possible, we are making conscious, informed choices about the direction and evolution of CSZ. We see our main objective this year as engaging the members of Sha'ar Zahav in a dialogue about change, about growth, about finances and about the values and mission of our congregation. We hope to provide many opportunities for mem

bers to engage in discussions with one another and with our committee.

The first of these formal opportunities will be the discussions at our upcoming Congregational Advance, to be held at CSZ the weekend of May 31 to June 2 (see article below). The Long-Range Planning Committee has been actively involved in defining the agenda and

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## Capital Campaign Kicks Into High Gear! by Arthur Slepian, CSZ Vice President

Beginning in May, and throughout the summer and fall, many of you will be called upon to make a pledge to the CSZ Capital Campaign - Phase Two. We hope you will respond with the generosity and commitment that has made CSZ such a strong community.

The first phase of this campaign was conducted from 1996 to 1998. During that time, more than 400 member households, along with relatives of members and friends of Sha'ar Zahav, pledged more than \$1.7 million for the purchase and renovation of our new home. CSZ members looked at an empty building and a set of blueprints and they opened their hearts and their wallets in remarkable fashion. This was by far the largest fundraising effort our congregation had ever undertaken. Yet the members who funded the initial campaign knew that the money they raised would not be sufficient by itself to pay back the necessary debt that was incurred, or to fund all the future improvements to the building that would be needed. But they moved forward, acting with a sense of faith. Faith that if the vision of

Mishkan Dolores was realized, there would be future members who, sharing the dream, would come forward to share the burden. We could say, I think, that they acted in the spirit of Pirkei Avot (wisdom of the sages) who teach us: "It is not upon you to finish the task, nor are you free not to begin." The task was begun, with great commitment and dedication, and now, it is up to us to continue. There are loans to be repaid, there is more work to be done. We have set a goal to raise at least \$400,000 in pledges during the coming year.

Beginning this month, Deborah Udin and our team of

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## The Feast of Weeks All in One Night?

Yes, indeed! As you receive this, the time is nearing for CSZ's annual Shavuot Study Spectacular, which will begin after services on Thursday night, May 16 and will end.....who knows when?

In past years, we've shared Talmud study, Yiddish poetry, Jewish humor, original prayers, singing, artwork and even exercises! If you have a passion for something Jewish, bring it with you and let us experience it too. If you feel more inclined to work behind the scenes, we need people to help coordinate things like pillows and food.

Please contact Danny Kodmur ([dkodmur@earthlink.net](mailto:dkodmur@earthlink.net)) or leave a message with the office. Let's make this night a special one for all of us!

## Congregational Advance

May 31-June 2

Interested in learning about CSZ's mission, values and vision? Want to be part of the congregation's long-range planning process? Have some ideas? All CSZ members are invited to be part of the First Annual Congregational Advance to be held the weekend of May 31 through June 2. Join us for a special Kabbalat Shabbat service in honor of our 25th anniversary on May 31. On Shabbat, after Torah study and Shacharit services, we'll have lunch together in the afternoon, and then break into workshop sessions. Dinner will be at neighborhood restaurants so you're back in time for Havdalah, singing and maybe some dancing. We'll convene again Sunday morning for bagels and coffee and a facilitated discussion of love, fears and options. This is a chance to be part of CSZ's long-range planning process, weigh in with your opinions and ideas, shmooze with old friends and make some new ones. Look for more information in the mail and in your weekly email updates from CSZ.



## From the Rabbi



Camille Angel

The rabbi's column will not run this month because Rabbi Angel is on family leave. But, in the meantime...

**Rabbi Camille Shira Angel and Karen Segal** proudly

announce the birth of their daughter, **Lilah Rose Angel**, weighing 7 pounds 8 ounces; 17 inches, on Tuesday, March 26 at 5:47 pm. Both the rabbi and Karen would like to thank the congregation for the lovely and heartwarming baby shower, and for all your prayers and good wishes.

## CSZ Youth Are the Experts

Whether you're a parent, a prospective parent or an interested community member, you've probably wondered what it's like for young people to grow up in lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender households. Don't miss this chance to hear from the real experts - the youth themselves. A panel discussion on Saturday, May 11, 4:30-6:30 pm will provide a chance for teens to tell their stories and for community members to ask candid (and respectful) questions about topics ranging from coping with parents breaking up to the effects on dating to the formation of gender and sexuality. This is a conversation many of us are longing to have within the safety of our community - one in which we won't have to defend the existence of our families, but instead can focus on the complexities, joys and heartaches of growing up with LGBT parents.

The panel will be moderated by Felicia Park-Rogers, CSZ member, Executive Director of COLAGE (Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere), and daughter of a gay, HIV+ dad and a lesbian mom.

Join us for the panel and a brief Havdalah service. \$10 donation, no one turned away for lack of funds.

## Nomination Committee Announces Candidates —

At our annual congregational meeting to be held on Sunday, May 19, Sha'ar Zahav members in good standing will elect three new Va'ad members and re-elect those officers who will be continuing on for a second one-year term. With thoughtful input from many people in the congregation, the Nominating Committee has put together a slate of candidates whom we are delighted to recommend.

Vice President Arthur Slepian, Vice President Jeff Sherman and Recorder Ray Bernstein will all be seeking a second one-year term. Gail Ludwig has been nominated for Treasurer.

Candidates for Va'ad at-large positions (all three-year terms) are Marianne Balin, Leslie Kane and Karen Schiller.

All congregants are invited to meet the candidates after services on Friday, May 10. This will be an opportunity

to talk with candidates about their backgrounds and experience in leadership at Sha'ar Zahav. Members of the Nominating Committee will also be on hand to answer questions about the election process.

The Nominating Committee wishes to thank all members and staff who suggested potential nominees, and to recognize and honor our continuing Board members: President Lisa Katz and Va'ad members at-large Ben Bank, Nancy Kates, Laura Lowe, Ron Miguel, Drew Parker-Rose and Howard Steiermann. We would also like to extend our special appreciation to those members who have completed their terms and will be leaving the Board at the end of June: James Carlson (Treasurer), and Va'ad members Howard Herman, Rose Katz and Ami Zusman.

## Be a Read-a-Thon Sponsor

Kadimah kicks off the first of what will surely become an annual Read-a-Thon, April 6 through May 11. All Kadimahniks are eligible, as are all members and friends of CSZ. It's easy to be a sponsor. The possibilities and combinations are limited only by your imagination!

For every book or page a student reads, an adult will make a contribution to Kadimah. It's a bit like bargaining over the afikomen. You contribute \$5 a book, up to 10 books. Or sponsor two students at \$2.50 a book, up to 10 books. Or a nickel a page. Or a flat fee contribution for each student who reads a book. Picture books count. So does an older student reading to a younger one. Visit a class one Shabbat, read a short story out loud to our kids and contribute a dollar for every listener. Books in Hebrew count!

Adults are the key to the Read-a-Thon's success. Encourage the love of reading, Jewish learning and a sense of community while raising money for Kadimah. Be on the look-out for sign-up sheets and ask Kadimah students if you can be their sponsor.

## Capital Campaign

*continued from page 1*

volunteer solicitors will be hard at work. We will be asking all of our members who have not yet pledged, whether you have been a member for just a year or for ten years, to make a pledge now. When you are contacted, remember the leap of faith that it took to build our home. It was a faith that you too, when the time came, would respond with unprecedented generosity. Let us honor that faith, and continue the work of building our congregation and our home. Let us make this campaign a great success!

## Pride 2002

The theme for this year's San Francisco Pride Parade is "Be Yourself, Change the World." We are looking for some fabulous CSZ-inspired ideas and volunteers for the parade. If you would like to volunteer your time and creative energy to make Sha'ar Zahav visible and vibrant at this year's festivities, please contact Melanie Kushnir in the CSZ Programming Office (415/861-6932 ext. 305 or [mkushnir@shaarzahav.org](mailto:mkushnir@shaarzahav.org)).



## Israel/Palestine Dialogue Groups

Almost every day we read about the bloodshed, hatred, occupation and devastation in the lands of Israel and Palestine. Many of us have family and friends there who are suffering, endangered or who even have been killed in the conflict. Each week at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav we pray for peace for Israel and the whole world. Many of us also take action for peace as individuals, through the Israel Committee of Sha'ar Zahav or through other organizations like A Jewish Voice for Peace.

We know that our community at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav has a wide range of views about what peace will look like and how it can be attained and sustained. Because this is a deeply felt, painful and complex conflict, it is possible for us to let our disparity of perspectives prevent us from talking with one another about it. But if we at Sha'ar Zahav cannot talk and listen to one another, how can we expect Israelis and Palestinians to do so? And if we are to act constructively, if we are to do something about the suffering that is taking place, we need to practice reflection, listening, softening our hearts, opening our minds and, most of all, giving our clear and focused attention to the difficult questions that arise.

Each month for the last four months, twelve to twenty-five people have gathered to create (quoting our introductory statement) "a place in Congregation Sha'ar Zahav where all views and all perspectives on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict can be heard; a place where we can practice listening to people with views different from our own, can practice asking hard questions, and can practice speaking our hearts and minds on this difficult topic so that we can speak and listen about this in the world; and a place where we cultivate humility in the face of a difficult struggle, openness to being moved and shaped by facts and feelings, and softness and compassion for people who are question

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## Keeping a Commitment to Israel

*by Miki Goralsky, for the Israel Committee*

I was born a Zionist - it's a genetic family condition - so just after my 11th birthday, my family moved to the land of Zion, where we lived out our dreams and our commitment to this very special place. Even though I live in the Bay Area now, I still feel that same level of commitment to the land of my childhood dreams.

Over the past 18 months, the situation between the Israelis and the Palestinians has gone from horrible to atrocious. Both sides are suffering tremendous losses, physical and emotional. The events of the week of Pesach, our celebration as a free people, have greatly added to my sense of fear, sadness and hopelessness. I wake up every morning with a sense of dread for the news that I don't want to hear but am so addicted to.

And here I sit, surrounded by the beauty of Northern California, the quiet, the ease of living in a well-established country where up until September 11 we all felt so safe. The guilt of this ease and beauty plagues me, for, if I, a Zionist by birth, am not in Israel during its worst times, what right do I have to be there during its good times? If I can't join my friends and family and stand strong with them, who will?

In typical Jewish fashion I have yet another question but this one keeps me from feeling completely helpless: what can I and people who feel the way I do, actually do? Here are a few things I came up with:

- On a very small scale, we can continue supporting Israel with our physical presence. In June, a group of CSZers are going to Israel for Israel Pride and the World Conference of LGBT Jewish Organizations. What a great way to tour the country, meet human rights leaders, learn about LGBT activism and be there with the people who need to see that we have not abandoned them.
- Come to Israel Committee meetings and share your insights and ideas with us. We need you!
- Learn about the history of Israel and the region so that you can have an

informed opinion of what's going on there.

- Know that it's okay to disagree with the policies of the Israeli government and at the same time still voice your support of and love for Israel.

Anyway, those are some of my thoughts. If you have more ideas you'd like to share, I invite you to the next Israel Committee meeting which is Thursday, May 23, 6:30 pm at CSZ. The following one will be on Thursday, June 20, 6:30 pm at CSZ and every third Thursday of the months after that. We would love to see you there.

For more information on the CSZ trip to Israel this June, please contact Michael Sarid (415/643-4390, Msarid@earthlink.net). For more information about the Israel Committee, please contact co-chairs Ron Lezell (415/626-5748) or Miki Goralsky (415/455-0416).

## CSZ Introduces Torah Trope Classes

Join CSZ member Laura Lowe for two exciting Torah trope classes:

**Mondays**  
**June 3, 10 and 17**  
**7 - 8:30 pm**

**Haftara Trope.** This class is designed to teach Haftara chanting to those who have some experience with basic trope.

**Mondays**  
**July 8, 15 and 22**  
**7 - 8:30 pm**

**High Holiday Trope.** Learn to chant High Holiday trope just in time for 5763!

For both classes, some experience with Torah trope is necessary. For more information, please phone Laura Lowe (415/247-2409) or contact Melanie Kushnir (415/861-6932 ext. 305 or mkushnir@shaarzahav.org). Cost for members is \$18 for either class, \$36 for both classes. Cost for non-members is \$36 for either class, \$72 for both.



## The CSZ Social Action Committee is Looking For Your Ideas and Involvement!

The Social Action Committee has some new projects it would like to get started, and could use some help with our existing projects as well. So if you have any interest in building community with queer youth, elderly and homeless people, or doing environmental or political work or any other kind of social action and service, we'd love to hear from you! Use the survey enclosed with this mailing to give us feedback. We'd also love to talk with you personally.

We've scheduled two open meetings for people to learn about and get involved with Social Action, and to help shape our future direction: Wednesday, May 15, 7 pm and Thursday, May 30, 7 pm, both at CSZ. Please RSVP to Melanie in the Program Office (415/861-6932 ext. 305 or [mkushnir@shaarzahav.org](mailto:mkushnir@shaarzahav.org)). Or feel free to contact the Social Action co-chairs directly: Susan Lubeck ([Susanlubeck@aol.com](mailto:Susanlubeck@aol.com)), AJ Turpen ([ajsparkles@mac.com](mailto:ajsparkles@mac.com)) and Craig Persiko ([craig@redcottage.com](mailto:craig@redcottage.com)).

## Pre-Shabbat Welcome Dinner

Friday, May 17, 6:15 pm at CSZ or 6:30 pm  
at House of Chen  
335 Noe St. (between 16th and 17th Sts.)

*"Small cheer and great welcome make  
for a merry feast" - Shakespeare*



Join the Keshet (Connection) and Membership Committees for a friendly, haimish (having the friendly rapport that exists inside a happy home) pre-Shabbat meal. We'll kibbitz. We'll have eppis tsu essen (a little something to eat).

This informal "pay-your-own-way" gathering is for prospective members, new members and seasoned members to get to know one another in a more informal and relaxed setting. As is our minhag (custom), we gather at CSZ at 6:15 pm and then head to the restaurant at 6:30 pm.

Please RSVP to Darah Wallsten (415/ 584-2706, [darahe@aol.com](mailto:darahe@aol.com)), Marc Wernick (415/928-7883, [mhwernick@aol.com](mailto:mhwernick@aol.com)) or the office (415/861-6932, [office@shaarzahav.org](mailto:office@shaarzahav.org)). We look forward to having you join us.

## Honor Mother Earth By Doing Environmental Restoration in Bernal Heights Park on Mother's Day!

Come join the Social Action Committee on Sunday, May 12 from 9 am to noon for a workday of environmental restoration in Bernal Heights Park. Adults and kids 10 years and older can work under the direction of an S.F. Recreation and Parks Department gardener to remove invasive plants. No experience needed. Gloves and tools will be provided. Please RSVP to Craig Persiko ([craig@redcottage.com](mailto:craig@redcottage.com) or 415/701-0733).

## Planning Committee

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topics for the Advance. We hope that many of you will choose to attend some or all of the Advance discussions. We look forward to hearing the diverse voices that make our congregation strong.

Following the Congregational Advance, we will try to use the critical issues that we identify there as the framework for further discussions in a variety of settings. Eventually, it will be the responsibility of the Long-Range Planning Committee to distill our work into a proposed vision/direction for CSZ that can guide our community over the next several years. Our committee looks forward to working together with you on this sacred task.

## Dreaming of Property

Buying your first home? • Buying commercial or investment property?  
Buying a second vacation home? • Refinancing residential or commercial property?

Irene  
Ogus



Deborah  
Udin



Step 3

Pick up your keys!



Step 2

Find the right property for you.  
Zephyr Real Estate  
415.552.9500 ext. 122

Step 1

Arrange Financing  
Pacific Guarantee Mortgage  
415.441.5050 work • 415.441.5047 fax

Percentage of all commissions to CSZ

## Members' Yahrzeits

- 9 Jack Jacobs
- 13 David Delroy
- 14 Thomas Yazman
- 16 David Weinstein
- 17 Nanci Stern
- 19 Allan Altman
- 21 James Perkins
- 24 David Loebel



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Note that articles reflect the opinions of their author and not necessarily those of the congregation or its committees.

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**Display Ads** are \$15 per column inch for nonmembers and \$10 per column inch for members with discounts available for size and frequency. Ads should be camera ready; any ads that require typesetting, camera and/or artwork will be subject to a one-time production charge.

**Classified Ads** are \$5 for up to 20 words, plus \$1 for each 10 additional words.

Payment must accompany ads and should be sent to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 290 Dolores St., San Francisco, California, 94103, marked: Attention Forward advertising. We reserve the right to reject any ad.

May 2002, Volume 25, Issue 9.



## Sha'ar Zahav Selected as Site for Experiment in Congregational Education

Experiment in Congregational Education (ECE) is a project of the Rhea Hirsch School of Education at Hebrew Union College (HUC) in Los Angeles. Over the past 10 years, the project has worked with 14 congregations around the country, transforming them into communities of learning, in which Jewish education is recognized as a key access point to participation in synagogue community. Participating congregations have begun such programs as a Shabbat afternoon family education religious school track, a teen healing service and an intergenerational dramatic arts program.

With the support of the Koret Foundation and in partnership with the Bureau of Jewish Education of San Francisco, the Peninsula, Marin and Sonoma Counties, a handful of local congregations have been selected to pilot a sub-project of the ECE called Innovative Models in Religious Schools (IMRS). As an ECE-IMRS site, CSZ will have the privilege and the challenge of examining our own religious school in the broader context of Jewish supplementary education and to search for ways to strengthen what we do. As a part of this year-long project, we will have the assistance of an ECE consultant, on-line learning resources from the HUC School of Education, on-line communications tools and a roadmap for a dynamic visioning process. Our ECE-IMRS task force will be made up of professional staff, teachers, Children's Education Board members, Long-Range Planning Committee members, parents of children of all ages and interested community members.

To find out more about this exciting new project, please visit the ECE website at [www.eceonline.org](http://www.eceonline.org). We look forward to sharing our innovations with you over the coming year.

*Litigation  
Estate Planning  
Personal Injury  
Business Law  
Probate  
Real Estate  
Employment  
discrimination*

**Legal  
Help**

**Goldstein, Gellman, Melbostad, Gibson & Harris, LLP**

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21st Floor  
San Francisco  
California  
94102



Call David Gellman  
415-621-5600



# May 2002-Iyyar/Sivan 5762

SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY			
<div>JUNE DEADLINE MONDAY, MAY 6, AT 5 PM</div> <div><div>ARTICLES</div><div>Please submit your articles as a Word attachment file via email to: <a href="mailto:kschiller@igc.org">kschiller@igc.org</a>. <i>No late submissions will be accepted.</i></div></div> <div><div>ADVERTISING</div><div>To place a display ad, contact Roslyn Fuerman (510/526-1209 or <a href="mailto:froslyn@earthlink.net">froslyn@earthlink.net</a>). To place a classified ad, call the office.</div></div>						1		• 4 pm - Kadimah	
523 Iyyar		624 Iyyar		725 Iyyar		8			
• 4 pm - Healing Service		• 6:45 pm - Dues Committee Meeting • 7 pm - Beit Midrash • 7 pm - Torah Trope Class		• 4 pm - East Bay Kadimah		• 4 pm - Kadimah • 4:30 pm - Social Action Meal Program • 7 pm - Building & Committee • 7 pm - JGF Editing			
121 Sivan		132 Sivan		143 Sivan		15			
• 9 am - Social Action Project: Park Restoration • 7 pm - JGF Layout		• 6:30 pm - Long-Range Planning • 7 pm - Torah Trope Class		• 4 pm - East Bay Kadimah		• 4 pm - Kadimah • 7 pm - Social Action Open Meeting			
198 Sivan		209 Sivan		2110 Sivan		22			
• 4 pm - Annual Congregational Meeting and Volunteer Appreciation		• 7 pm - Torah Trope Class		• 4 pm - East Bay Kadimah • 6:30 pm - Israel/Palestine Dialogue		• 4 pm - Kadimah			
2615 Sivan		27Memorial Day16 Sivan		2817 Sivan		29			
		Office Closed							

## Experience the Unbearable Adorableness of Being

On Friday, May 31, Sha'ar Zahav will celebrate 25 years of community and tefillah with a special Ma'ariv service. For this special occasion we're pulling together an elite group of 3, 4 and 5-year-old singers, CSZ's own Junior Junior Choir. You won't want to miss this. Besides, they'll be staying up late and will be dependent on your energy to pull them through. You'll thrill to their stirring rendition of "Shabbat Shalom" and their definitive treatment of "Hinei-Ma-Tov." The future is here. And it will be on the bima on Friday, May 31. We hope you'll join us. Be sure to bring your handkerchief.

### East Bay Service

**Friday, May 17, 7:15 pm**

Vegetarian potluck  
candle lighting and zimrot (sing)

Ida Kuluk and Susan Spotswood  
4042 Maple Ave., Oakland, CA 94609

510/530-4673



THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SHABBAT	
19 Iyyar	2 20 Iyyar	3 21 Iyyar	4 Shabbat BeHar-Be-Hukkotai (Lev. 25:1-27:34) 22 Iyyar		
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 6 pm - Family Kabbalat Shabbat Dinner</li><li>• 7:44 pm - Candle Lighting</li><li>• 8:15 pm - Shabbat Services led by Tiela Chalmers and Annie Downs</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 9 am - Torah Study</li><li>• 9:30 am - Kadimah</li><li>• 10 am - Shabbat Services led by Kadimah, Alan Gordon and Randy Weiss</li></ul>		
26 Iyyar	9 27 Iyyar	10 28 Iyyar	11 Shabbat BeMidbar (Num. 1:1-4:20) 29 Iyyar		
ounds Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 6:30 pm - Va'ad Meeting</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 7:50 pm - Candle Lighting</li><li>• 8:15 pm - Shabbat Services led by Larry Wexler</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 9 am - Torah Study</li><li>• 9:30 am - Kadimah and Kadimah Open House</li><li>• 10 am - Shabbat Services led by Sarita Groisser and Josh Shuster Lefkowitz</li><li>• 4:30 pm - Youth Panel: Growing Up with Gay Parents</li></ul>		
4 Sivan	16 Erev Shavuot 5 Sivan	17 Shavuot 6 Sivan	18 Shabbat Shavuot (Duet. 14:22-16:17, Num. 28:26-31) 7 Sivan		
nnittee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 7 pm - Erev Shavuot Service and Study Session</li></ul>	<p>Office Closed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 6:15 pm - Welcome Dinner</li><li>• 7:15 pm - East Bay Services</li><li>• 7:56 pm - Candle Lighting</li><li>• 8:15 pm - Shabbat Services led by Batya Kalis and Eileen Levy</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 9 am - Torah Study</li><li>• 9:30 am - Kadimah</li><li>• 10 am - Shabbat Services led by Ora Prochovnick</li><li>• 10:30 am - Tot Shabbat</li><li>• 12 pm - Kadimah Family Picnic</li></ul>		
11 Sivan	23 12 Sivan	24 13 Sivan	25 Shabbat Naso (Num. 4:21-7:89) 14 Sivan		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 6:30 pm - Israel Committee</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 6 pm - Social Action Project at the Jewish Home</li><li>• 8:02 pm - Candle Lighting</li><li>• 8:15 pm - Shabbat Services led by Tiela Chalmers and Randy Weiss</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 9 am - Torah Study</li><li>• 10 am - Shabbat Services</li></ul>		
18 Sivan	30 19 Sivan	31 20 Sivan	<p>Please note that dates, times and locations sometimes get changed after the <i>Forward</i> is published.</p> <p>Call the office if you need updated information.</p>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 6:30 pm - Ritual Committee Meeting</li><li>• 7 pm - Social Action Committee Open Meeting</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 8:07 pm - Candle Lighting</li><li>• 8:15 pm - 25th Anniversary Celebration Shabbat Services</li></ul>			
CONGREGATIONAL ADVANCE THROUGH JUNE 2					

## Annual Congregational Meeting and Volunteer Recognition on May 19th

Please join us at this year's annual meeting. This is your opportunity to discuss issues with the Va'ad, Committee Chairs and other members. We will also be electing new Va'ad members, voting on the proposed budget for 2002-03 and considering changes to the Bylaws.

This year, as part of the program, we will also recognize our dedicated volunteers. So many of our members expend countless hours in service to our community; the gifts that they bring to all of us are truly priceless. We would like to take the opportunity to thank them for their efforts on our behalf. The meeting begins at 4pm, a light supper will be served at 5:30 pm. We hope to see you there.



## Nora Downs' Bat Mitzvah



On April 27, Shabbat Emor, Nora Downs was called to the Torah as a bat mitzvah.

Nora is in the seventh grade at Orinda Intermediate School,

where her favorite subject is history. Besides school and preparing for her bat mitzvah, Nora's main extracurricular activity is singing in the San Francisco Girls' Chorus, where she sings alto.

Preparing for her bat mitzvah has made her more confident about herself, Nora says. She has learned a lot about how to interpret Torah and what it means today. Some things in the Torah are not that different from how things are in our time, she has discovered.

Nora would like to thank her teachers Phyllis Mintzer, Ron Edelman and Jen Levinson, her sister Annie and her mother Marianne Balin. Mazel tov to Nora and all her family on this happy occasion.

## CSZ Family Camp

Mark your calendars and join the CSZ Family Camp weekend at Walker Creek Ranch this June 14-16 (Friday-Sunday). This year's theme of "Bread and Spices: from Challah to Havdalah" will guide us in developing and strengthening our Jewish home life through crafts, food, fun, ritual and prayer. We will learn rituals that can be done at home, including the Shabbat blessing for children. We hope to recapture many of the special moments shared last year (campfire songs, balloon fights, romping in the creek, Havdalah in the woods) at the family camp while building in more "down" time for relaxation. All family configurations are welcome, but the weekend's activities will be geared mostly to children. For more information, contact Sue Bojdak.

**DON'T FORGET!**

**PLEASE DROP  
TOILETRY ITEMS FOR  
THOSE IN NEED INTO  
THE BIG RED BIN**



## Pinat Yeladim Umishpachah

Children and Family Corner



### Family Kabbalat Shabbat Dinner and Service:

**Friday, May 3, 6 pm**

Join us for our final Family Kabbalat Shabbat program of the year with Family Education Specialist Jeni Markowitz. We will feast and welcome Shabbat with prayer, songs, storytelling and more. Children of all ages are welcome. Reservations are necessary. Cost for members is \$3 for children, \$5 for adults and for non-members is \$5 for children and \$10 for adults. Please RSVP by May 1.

### Tot Shabbat

**Saturday, May 18, 10:30 am**

Don't miss Family Education Specialist Jeni Markowitz's final tot program of the season! Bring your 2-5 year olds for Shabbat singing, prayer, storytelling, crafts and Jewish family fun. Interested in continuing Tot Shabbat through the summer? Contact Sue Bojdak (see contact information below.)

### Looking for Babies

Interested in gathering with other parents of wee ones? The Education Office is interested in hearing from you. Tell us if you're interested in an informal monthly gathering with other parents of kids up to age two, if you have ideas for meeting and if you would like to help organize the effort. Please contact Sue Bojdak to express your interest and share your thoughts.

**Contact Sue Bojdak, Director of  
Family and Children's Education  
(415/861-6932 x 302 or  
educator@shaarzahav.org)**

**for more information about any  
of these programs or to RSVP.**

### Kadimah Family Picnic:

**Saturday, May 18, Noon  
at Dolores Park**

Come celebrate the end of another wonderful year of Kadimah. We will applaud the service of our fine teachers, teaching assistants and madrichim. Plus eat, play and enjoy!

### Kadimah-led Services:

**Saturday, May 4, 10 am**

Come daven with the children of our community. Chant the Sh'ma with our first-year students and continue with the Ve'ahavta under the direction of our oldest students. Listen to our post-b'nei mitzvah youth chant Torah and share their collective teaching on the portion of the week. Be inspired and experience the joy of learning.

### Kadimah Open House for Prospective Students and Their Families

**Saturday, May 11  
9:30 - 10:45 am**

Thinking about enrolling your child in Kadimah in the Fall? Wondering if now is the right time for you? Trying to figure out what happens at Kadimah anyway? Now is the time to come check it out. Experience our morning prayer circle. Hear from our kids about their experiences. Get a taste of our classrooms. And have all of your questions answered. Don't forget to bring your kids so they can learn what it's about.

### Parent Education Series:

#### Youth Panel: Growing Up with Gay Parents

**Saturday, May 11, 4:30 - 6:30 pm**

See article on page 2.

**Last Saturday of Kadimah is May 18  
Last Wednesday of Kadimah is May 22**



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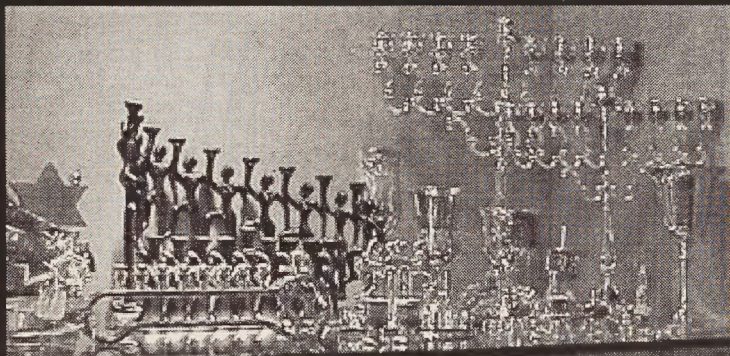
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**Many beautiful new items just arrived!**

## Dew Ewe Sea Sumthing Rong Hear?

If your answer is "YES," then the Newsletter Committee needs you.

Contact Karen Schiller (415/550-0637,  
[kschiller@jgc.org](mailto:kschiller@jgc.org)) to find out how to join us.

## March Va'ad Minutes

Howard Steiermann delivered the d'var Torah. When building the mishkan, the Israelites were instructed to give what they could. Soon the leaders went to Moshe to say that they could not accept any more contributions. Howard explained that this shows our people's history of giving, and noted that it is a blessing to give of ourselves.

James Carlson gave the first reading of next year's proposed budget. He will provide more detail on the proposed budget at the April Va'ad meeting.

Rabbi Angel told us whom to contact during her family leave about pastoral issues and crises (Gabby Volodarsky), deaths (Lisa Katz), services and life-cycle events (Ritual Committee) or questions (Gabby). The Rabbi thanked Jeff Sherman and Diana Buchbinder for their work on her evaluation, which she said was a wonderful experience. She commented on the heartbreaking situation in Israel.

After renewed discussion, we passed the following policy regarding money on Shabbat: "For any CSZ event occurring on Shabbat for which a fee is to be charged, there must be ample opportunity and strong encouragement for people to register and pay in advance. Any person wishing to participate in such an event who has not paid in advance shall be provided with an opportunity to pay at the door by placing the payment and their name in an envelope and dropping this into the tzedakah box, or they may request to be billed by providing name, address and telephone number on a list at the door on the day of the event. Participants will understand that on Shabbat we will not have a cash box or change available. No person - staff or volunteer - will be required to accept money on Shabbat."

President Lisa Katz reported that on May 5, there will be a facilitated meeting of the Va'ad, the Long-Range Planning Committee, the chair of the CEB and the newly selected co-chairs of the Congregational Advance (Leslie Kane and Marc Lipschutz).

We welcomed three new member households and one returning member. We acknowledged two resigning households.

Interim Program Director Melanie Kushnir, in her written report, described the growing Beit Midrash, the upcoming Art Shabbaton, a variety of trope classes and Social Action projects.

Director of Children's and Family Education Sue Bojdak submitted a written Educator's report. Kadimah experimented with transgender education around Purim, with generally positive responses.

*continued on page 11*



## Dialogue Groups

*continued from page 3*

ing and struggling in ways different from ourselves."

So far, we have talked about our fears and dreams for the Israeli/Palestinian conflict and for how we talk about it at Sha'ar Zahav; our own personal stories in relationship to Israel/Palestine, and how the people in our lives and our direct experiences have shaped our perspectives; how the Reform movement has imagined the Jewish people in relationship to the land and state of Israel, and how we ourselves understand our Jewishness in relation to the land and state of Israel; and our analysis of the obstacles to and possibilities for co-existence between Jews and Palestinians. Throughout, we have enjoyed both a large range of perspectives and an atmosphere of deep respect.

What are your feelings about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict? How often do you get a chance to talk with other people about your feelings, your questions, your analysis or your visions for Israel and Palestine? How often do you have an opportunity to listen and be listened to? How often do you have an opportunity to reflect on this difficult topic in an atmosphere that encourages openness and respect?

Come join us! Every dialogue is open to newcomers. The next dialogue is on Tuesday, May 21 at 6:30 pm in the Oneg Room. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Rachel Timoner (415/242-4132 or [rtimoner@igc.org](mailto:rtimoner@igc.org)).

**ATTORNEYS AT LAW**

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## Synagogue Information

### Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

290 Dolores Street  
 415/861-6932 (voice); 415/861-6081 (fax)  
 Programming office, 415/575-4961  
 Education office, 415/575-4962  
[office@shaarzahav.org](mailto:office@shaarzahav.org) (email)  
<http://www.shaarzahav.org> (web)

### CSZ Staff:

*Rabbi*, Camille Shira Angel (x 301)  
 - [rabbianangel@shaarzahav.org](mailto:rabbianangel@shaarzahav.org)  
*Administrator*, Lea Salem (x 308)  
 - [lsalem@shaarzahav.org](mailto:lsalem@shaarzahav.org)  
*Program Director*, Dahlia Gross (x 305)  
 - [cszdahlia@yahoo.com](mailto:cszdahlia@yahoo.com)  
*Director of Children's and Family Education*  
 Sue Bojdak (x 302)  
 - [educator@shaarzahav.org](mailto:educator@shaarzahav.org)  
*Kadimah Head Teacher*,  
 - Phyllis Mintzer  
*Administrative Assistant*,  
 Sean Holcombe (x 304)  
 - [sholcombe@shaarzahav.org](mailto:sholcombe@shaarzahav.org)  
*Family Education Specialist*,  
 Jeni Markowitz  
 - [familyeducator@shaarzahav.org](mailto:familyeducator@shaarzahav.org)  
*Rabbi's Assistant*,  
 Gabby Volodarsky (x 310)  
 - [gabbyv@shaarzahav.org](mailto:gabbyv@shaarzahav.org)

### Officers:

*President*, Lisa Katz  
 (415/821-7746),  
 - [llkatz1@juno.org](mailto:llkatz1@juno.org) or  
 - [president@shaarzahav.org](mailto:president@shaarzahav.org)  
*Vice President*, Arthur Slepian  
*Vice President*, Jeffrey Sherman  
*Treasurer*, James Carlson  
*Recorder*, Ray Bernstein

### Va'ad (Board) Members:

David Gellman (ex officio)  
 Ben Bank  
 Howard Herman  
 Nancy Kates  
 Rose Katz  
 Laura Lowe  
 Ron Miguel  
 Drew Parker-Rose  
 Howard Steiermann  
 Ami Zusman

*Members wishing to contact any Va'ad member or committee chair are invited to obtain her or his number from the synagogue office.*

### Committee Chairs:

*Adult Education*, Ron Edelman  
*Archives*, open  
*Baby Havurah*, open  
*Bequests and Donations*, Richard Inlander  
*Bikkur Cholim*, open  
*Book Group*, Mark Mackler  
*Building and Grounds*, Beth Sousa  
*Bylaws*, Richard Inlander  
*Children's Education Board*, Ruthy Talansky  
*Cemetery*, Richard Inlander  
*Dor Rishon Brotherhood*, open  
*Dues*, James Carlson, Tiela Chalmers,  
 Brian Jersky, Laura Lowe  
*East Bay Havurah*, Ida Kuluk  
 and Larry Wexler  
*Endowment Fund*, Diana Buchbinder  
*Finance*, James Carlson  
*Fine Arts*, Barbara Cymrot  
*Fundraising*, Arthur Slepian  
*Gift Shop*, Jeff Rubin  
*Israel Committee*, Ron Lezell  
 and Michal Goralsky  
*Kesher/Connection*, Marianne Balin and  
 Geri Kahn  
*Leadership Development*, Paul Cohen and  
 Lyssa Friedman  
*Library*, Bernard Schertzer  
*Long-Range Planning*, Arthur Slepian and  
 Claudia Bernard  
*Membership Outreach*, Tony Harris  
*Mishkan Dolores Capital Campaign*,  
 Deborah Udin  
*Music*, Michael Sarid  
*Newsletter*, Karen Schiller  
 - [kschiller@igc.org](mailto:kschiller@igc.org)  
*Past Presidents Council*, David Stein  
*Personnel*, Jeff Sherman  
*Public Relations*, Sharyn Saslafsky  
 and Marc Wernick  
*Rabbi Liaison*, Ora Prochovnick  
*Ritual*, Howard Steiermann  
*Social Action*, AJ Turpen, Craig Persiko,  
 Susan Lubeck  
*Singles Havurah*, Marc Wernick  
 - [mhwernick@aol.com](mailto:mhwernick@aol.com)  
*Toddler/Pre-school Havurah*, open  
*UAHC National Liaison*, Mike Rankin  
*UAHC Regional Liaison*, Daniel Chesir  
*WCGLBJO Liaison*, David Gellman  
*Web and I.T.*, Geoff Benjamin  
*Women's Havurah*, open

**Bikkur Cholim:** If you or a friend who is a member of Sha'ar Zahav is ill in the hospital or at home, and would like to have a member of the Bikkur Cholim Committee call or visit, please notify the synagogue office.

**Member of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations and the World Congress of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Jewish Organizations.**



# Contributions

## Adult Education Fund

**Liz Goodman and Ellen Lewin**  
-in memory of Eli Weinstein.

**James Carlson**  
-in honor of Dev Felder Noily.

## AIDS Fund

**Susan Simpson**  
-in memory of David Magennis.

## Bikkur Cholim Fund

**Arthur Slepian**  
-in memory of Eli Weinstein.

## Chesir-Stein Music Fund

**Batya Kalis**  
-in memory of Vera Weiss.

## Children's Education Fund

**Allan Berenstein**  
-in honor of the birth of Rami Harel Kripke-Ludwig.

## Mishkan Dolores Capital Campaign

**Batya Kalis**  
-in memory of Naomi Eden.

**Allan Berenstein**  
-in memory of Max Radetsky.  
-in memory of Ron Gertz and Norma Faini-Pick.

**Hal Podgur**  
-in memory of Mollie Podgur.

**Jeff Piade**  
-in honor of Lilah Rose Angel  
-in Honor of Rami Harel Kripke-Ludwig

## Passover Subsidies

**Robert Cohen.**  
**Ann Aptaker.**  
**Steven and Florence Nacamulli.**  
**Paul Whitmore.**  
**Stephen Shotland.**  
**Ilana Drummond and Sharon Dulberg.**  
**Ron Edelman.**

## Rabbi Angel's Discretionary Fund

**Ed Blaik**  
-in appreciation of Rabbi Angel.  
**Robert Cohen**  
-in memory of Doug Porter and Ruth Levy.  
**Dan Bellm and Rabbi Yoel Kahn**  
-in memory of Naomi Eden.  
**Steve Mazer**  
-in honor of Lilah Rose Angel.  
**Shelley Adler**  
-in memory of Shoshana Adler.

## Social Action Fund

**Allan Berenstein**  
-in memory of Agnes Berenstein-Schwartz.

*Special thanks to those who have helped sponsor this year's Art Shabbaton weekend*

**Judith Cohen.**  
**Steven Elman and Tom Holt.**

## General Fund

**Howard Steiermann.**  
**Robin Leonard**  
-in memory of Eli Weinstein.  
-r'fuah sh'leimah for Sharyn Saslafsky.

**Ami Zusman**  
-in memory of Vera Weiss.

**Marc Wernick**  
-in memory of Vera Weiss.

**Deena Lahn**  
-in honor of Judy Schwartz.

**Jeff Vogel**  
-in memory of Leland Vogel.

**Barbara Buckley**  
-in memory of Vera Weiss.

**John Larkin.**

**Lou Hirschmann.**

**Colette Patt and Jennifer Lorvick**  
-in memory of Phyllis Patt.

**Miriam Epstein.**

**Walter Leiss**  
-in honor of Mark Leno's victory in the race for State Assembly.

**Allan Berenstein.**

**Larry Wexler**  
-in memory of Vera Weiss.  
-in memory of Al Ferrara.

**Doron Sharfman.**

**Philip Charney**  
-in support of Israel programs at CSZ.

**Steven Elman**  
-in honor of Gordon Osser's 75th birthday.

**C. Hillard.**

**Peter Warhit.**

**Seth Charney**  
-in memory Nettie Charney.

**Hal Podgur**  
-in memory of Eli Weinstein.

**Susan Tubbesing**  
-in memory of Ann Kohout.

**James Carlson**  
-in memory of Richard Roginski.

**Randy Weiss**  
-in memory of Eli Weinstein.  
-in memory of Allen Weiss.  
-in appreciation of Janis and Marti Sands-Weinstein.  
-in honor of Craig Shear's birthday.

*Congregation Sha'ar Zahav appreciates your support.  
If you are interested in making a contribution, please contact our Administrator, Lea Salem at 861-6932 x308.*

## May Anniversaries

- 16 Ann Bauman and Kelly Thiemann
- 22 Phyllis and George Mintzer
- 23 Camille Angel and Karen Segal
- 24 Alison Scott and Alisa Weiner
- 27 Jo-Ellen and David Kaiser
- 28 Geoff Benjamin and Craig Persiko
- 31 Ilana Bernstein and Diane Desmond

## March Va'ad Minutes

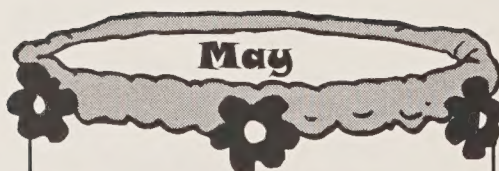
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Sue is exploring the possibility of renting classroom space in the neighborhood for next year. Recent family education events included a Purim Carnival, a family stories event in conjunction with the Bureau of Jewish Education, a parenting program on discipline, a lesson about seder plates, a family education conference and the program, "Family Pioneers: Defining New Roles in LGBT Families."

Howard Herman reported on the mid-year assessment of East Bay Kadimah, as requested by the Va'ad. Results were mixed.

Administrator Lea Salem provided a written report. If you would like your event or meeting publicized in the CSZ weekly e-mail, please contact Lea. Please remember to inform her of meetings and events occurring at the building. Phase II of the Capital Campaign will be getting underway; volunteer solicitors welcome. Thanks to Tony Harris and Marianne Balin for organizing successful events to help us build community.





- 1 Avner Lapovsky  
David Ramos
- 2 Rena Frantz
- 3 Sean Hornby-Finch  
Julie Stahl +  
Miriam Trentman
- 4 Jeffrey Rubin
- 5 David Blumberg  
Colette Patt  
Barbara Rinkoff
- 6 Joan Becker  
Aaron Buchbinder  
Henry Carrey +  
Mercedes Navarro  
Alison Scott
- 8 Zoe Kaiser  
Shelley Samuels
- 9 Ruth Newstat Dreisbach
- 10 Rabbi Camille Angel  
Judy Hogan
- 12 Kailin Koch  
Benjamin Malakoff  
Sophie Navarro
- 13 Alison Jacoby  
Mark Reisbaum
- 14 Richard Allman  
Claire Rappoport
- 15 Arnie Jackson
- 17 Buz Bernstein +  
Antoinette Rose +  
David Schnur +

## New Members

The Membership Committee is pleased to announce that our congregation gained the following new members this month. A warm welcome to the most recent people to join our family:

- **Erin Powers, Richard Gruschka and Ryan Gruschka Powers**
- **Stefan Bain**
- **Danny Givertz**
- **Nicholas Renault**
- **Mary Parke**

We are grateful to see our congregation grow. It is up to all of us to help our new members feel welcome as they become active participants in our community.



- 18 Yona Barth-Rogers  
David Stein
- 19 Ashley Levy-Kreisel +  
Gary Winter
- 20 Lillian Schaechner  
Richard Wilson
- 21 Rose Mallia +  
Gerald Rosenstein
- 22 Marilyn Brown  
Janis Medina
- 23 Barbara Cymrot  
Nancy Feinstein +
- 26 Robert Katz  
Harper Rose +
- 27 Nancy Epstein  
Anna Lichtenberg
- 28 Richard Gruschka  
Sherie Koshover
- 29 Trudi Hauptman
- 30 Mark Gershman

## Classifieds

### HEBREW/TORAH TROPE INSTRUCTION:

Private tutoring/groups. Over 100 satisfied customers since 1999! Contact Kenny Altman at 415-379-9783, [kennyaltman@kennyaltman.com](mailto:kennyaltman@kennyaltman.com).

### ALL THINGS MACINTOSH:

Internet making you crazy? Mysterious freezes? Troubleshooter for hire! Improve Performance. Software Support/Tutoring/& More. References. Roslyn 510/526-1209

### PSYCHOTHERAPY:

Life transition, grief and loss, HIV/AIDS, substance use, mood disorder, dot-com angst. Jody Reiss, LCSW (#LCS15289), 415-401-9482.

### MENDOCINO GETAWAY:

10% to CSZ. 1BR with ocean view, wood stove, full kitchen, 2 full beds. \$90 + 10% tax/night, \$540/week. Jane 707/937-2648.

### GOT SUN?

Palm Springs vacation rental. 3 bdr home, sleeps 6. Pool w/privacy. Close to downtown. No smoking, no pets, no kids. Available by the day, week or month. Online video tour. CSZ member discount. Contact: [sfojames@pacbell.net](mailto:sfojames@pacbell.net).

## Naches

To **Amanda Littauer and Laura Steele** on the birth of their daughter, Zoe Renee Littauer Steele.

To **Rabbi Camille Shira Angel and Karen Segal** on the birth of their daughter, Lilah Rose Angel.

To **Clarissa Kripke and Gail Ludwig** on the birth of their son, Rami Harel Kripke-Ludwig.

To **Simon Glinsky**, on the birth of his nephew, Emmanuel Joshua Glinsky.

To **Jeffrey Davidson** on the publication of his short story, "Expression Corporelle," in San Diego State University's literary journal *pacificREVIEW* 2002.

To **Caryn Aviv** who defended her dissertation and received her Ph.D. in sociology from Loyola University in Chicago.

To **Michael Frank** on his new position as the Chief Administrative Officer for the Department of Recreation and Parks of the City and County of San Francisco.

## Condolences

**Jonathan Pannor**, on the death of his uncle, Stuart Alpers.

**Allan Berenstein**, on the death of his friend, Pat Hatlen.

**Alan Ferrara and Allan Gold**, on the death of their father and father-in-law, Al Ferrara.

**Alan Karras**, on the death of his great-aunt, Esther Edelman.

**Jeni Markowitz**, on the death of her grandfather, Harry Markovitz.

**Naomi Szoke**, on the death of her friend, Ilan Beiderman.

**Ray Bernstein**, on the death of his uncle, Martin David Bernstein.

## Oneg & Flower Sponsorship

These generous people sponsored the Oneg and/or flowers in recent weeks:

- 4/5 Oneg by Gordon Osser in celebration of his 75th birthday.
- 4/5 Flowers by Rebecca Goldfader in memory of Sidney Goldfader
- 4/12 Oneg by the Novogrodsky-Godt Family in honor of Chava's naming and Avidan's 3rd birthday.
- 4/26 Oneg by Ray Bernstein in memory of his uncle, Martin David Bernstein